Terms and conditions of service of E.D. employees

500. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of Extra-Departmental employees working in P&T Department, as on *January 1, April 1* and July 1, 1992, zone-wise;

(b) what is the number out of them who had completed three years of service; and

(c) what are the terms and conditions of their service?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Statistical information is maintained circle-wise and not zone-wise. The requisite information is being collected from the field units and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The broad terms and conditions of service of Extra-Department Agents are given in the Statement.

Statement

Broad terms and conditions of service of the Extra Departmental Postal Employees

1. The Extra Departmental System is mainly intended to provide postal facilities in the rural and semi-urban areas of the country where a regular departmental post office cannot be opened for want of adequate workload and on cost consideration. They are not regular full time employees of the Department, but are only part-time employees. They are the local residents of the area in which the Extra Departmental Post Offices exist. They are required to have some independent source of livelihood and the allowances they earn are meant to supplement their basic income which they derive from other sources. Depending upon the workload, the duration of their duty varies from two to five hours per day. The holders of the Posts of Extra Departmental Branch Postmasters and Extra Departmental sub-Postmasters are required to make available accommodation for functioning of the post offices and in lieu thereof they are paid an office maintenance allowance of Rs. 25 per month. They are entitled to a maximum of 180 days leave without allowances. The normal age of superannuation is 65 years. Subject to their fulfilling the prescribed conditions of eligibility with regard to recruitment to regular Group 'D' and Postmen cadres, they are given preference against outsiders quota of vacancies and thereafter become eligible for all benefits at par with regular postal employees.

2. The extra departmental agents are paid allowances ranging between a certain minimum and a maximum based on the workload of each category of Extra Departmental Postal Employees as indicated below:

	Minimum	Maximum
1. Extra Departmental Branch Postmasters .	Rs. 275/-	Rs. 440/-
2. Extra Departmental Sub Postmasters . .	Rs. 385/-	Rs. 620/-
Other Extra Departmental Agents:—		
(1) For less than two hours work . . .	Rs. 240/-	..
(2) For two hours and above	Rs. 270/-	Rs. 420/-

Apart from the above, the Extra Departmental Agents of all categories are also paid Dearness Allowances at the same rate and frequency at which the regular employees are paid. The ED Agents are also paid Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) on the basis of their actual emoluments.